

HONORABLE CHIEF JUDGE ROBERTO A. LANGE
8TH CIRCUIT COURTS, DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
U.S. FEDERAL BUILDING 225 S
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501

DEAR HONORABLE CHIEF JUDGE Roberto A. Lange,

GREETINGS SIR, THERE'S A NEWSLETTER WE GET ON OUR COMPUTER E-MAIL EVERY MONDAY, AND IT UPDATES THE STATISTICS OF THE CORONA VIRUS, IN THE BUREAU OF PRISONS. AS OF NOW, THIS COVID 19 HAS BEEN SETTING RECORD HIGHES OF CONFIRMED CASES, AND DEATHS IN THE B.O.P.

ALTHOUGH WE HAVE A COUPLE CASES HERE IN SPRINGFIELD JUST RECENTLY, IT HAS EVERYONE ON EDGE OF IT SPREADING SOON. OTHER PRISONS 70% OF THE POPULATION IS INFECTED WITH THE VIRUS, AND THE DEATH RATE IS ON THE RISE. IN ONE OF THE PRISONS, STAFF ARE CONFINED TO WORK BEING POSITIVE FOR THE CORONA VIRUS, INFECTION OTHER STAFF AND INMATES AT THEIR FACILITY.

WE, HERE AT SPRINGFIELD MO. ARE VERY CONCERNED FOR OUR SAFETY AND OUR FAMILIES. WE ALL TRY HARD, KEEPING OUR UNITS CLEAN, WE ARE OVERCRAMMED AND SHORT STAFFED AND IT MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCING. THERE IS NO PROGRAMS SINCE MARCH, SO IT PRETTY BORING, DOING DEAD TIME. I THINK WE SHOULD BE GIVEN TWO FOR ONE, FOR EVERY DAY WE DO. THE WARDEN OR THE BOP ARE SLOWLY LETTING INMATES OUT HERE, BUT ALL THE ONES, WITH A LOT OF TIME LEFT, OR THAT HAVE VIOLENT CRIMES, ALOT OF US FEEL THIS ISN'T FAIR.

SOME OF US WROTE THE PRESIDENT, AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM BARRETT INFORMING THEM, THIS FACILITY ISN'T LETTING ELIGIBLE OR QUALIFIED INMATES, GO TO WHO APPLIED FOR HOME-CONFINEMENT OR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE. I WAS JUST IN THE HOSPITAL FOR PNEUMONIA, THAT FELT LIKE I WAS HAVING A STROKE, BUT I'M JUST GLAD TO OVERCOME THE PNEUMONIA AND NOT TESTED FOR COVID 19.

MY MOTHER AND AUNTIES HEARD I HAD A STROKE, AND WERE WORRIED BECAUSE THE PEOPLES HERE CAN'T INFORM THEM OF ANYTHING, EXCEPT ONLY IF YOU'RE DEAD, THAT'S NOT RIGHT. I'M GLAD I GOT A COUPLE OF MY CHRISTIAN BUDDIES TO CALL MY FAMILY, IF I GET SICK OR GO TO THE HOSPITAL, BECAUSE FOR A WHILE THERE WAS A LOT OF UNEXPLAINED DEATHS GOING ON HERE.

I WORRY ABOUT MY MOTHER, SHE'S ELDERLY LIVING AT HER OWN HOME AND MY SISTER STACY, WHO MY AUNT JOLYNN TAKES CARE OF HER, MY ONLY SISTER LEFF IS HANDICAPPED, WE ARE A YEAR APART. SHE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO LIVE THIS LONG BUT SHE'S BEEN HANGING IN THERE. I SPEND A LOT OF TIME WITH HER, SHE'S SO SPECIAL TO ALOT OF US. MY GRANDPARENTS RAISED HER TOO, MY GRANDMA BELVA, ALWAYS WORRIED FOR HER IN HER LAST DAYS, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO STACY OR WHO'S GOING TO LOOK AFTER HER?

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MY GRANDPARENTS WERE SPECIAL, 52 PLUS YEARS TOGETHER, MARRIED TO EACH OTHER, RAISING THEIR KIDS FROM EACH OTHER ON BOTH MY FATHER'S SIDE AND MOTHER'S TOO. WE WERE RICH BUT WE HAD LOVE AND CARED FOR EACH OTHER. NOW DAYS IT'S A DIFFERENT TIME WITH THIS WORLD SO OUT OF CONTROL SINCE THIS COVID 19 GETTING WORST, KIDS GETTING IT NOW. GEORGE FLOYD DEATH, LEADING TO PROTEST. I SEE IT ONLY TO GET WORST, IF THERE'S NO JUSTICE REFORM.

MY MOTHER IS SO WORRIED TOO, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW, THAT THEY 20 CASES OF COVID 19 ON THEIR RESER-
-VATION, I CAN'T HER DAILY, TO CHECK ON HER AT HER OWN HOME. MY SISTER TOO, MY AUNT JILLYNN TAKES CARE
OF HER, WE ARE ALMOST THE SAME AGE, ONE YEAR APART. SHE WASN'T SUPPOSE TO LIVE THIS LONG BUT
SHE'S BEEN FLAILING IN THERE. SHE'S SUCH A SPECIAL PERSON, FULL OF JOY.

THIS PAST WEEK, THEY HAVE BEEN MOVING INMATE TO THE RDAP WARD, WHERE I'VE BEEN TRYING TO
MOVE SINCE I'VE COME HERE, (1 YEAR AGO TODAY) 1 YEAR IN COUNTYAILS, WILL I GET TIME SERVED
FOR THOSE DAYS? NEVER HEARD. ANY HOW, I'M NOT SURE I CAN MOVE TO THE RDAP WARD BECAUSE
I'M A LEVEL 4 CARE PATIENT AND NEED 24 CARE WITH A NURSE ON YOUR UNIT 24-7 AND RDAP WARD ONLY
HAS A NURSE THERE ONLY DURING THE DAY. MY DOCTOR LEAR RETIRED, ONLY GOT TO SEE HER ONCE, MY NEW
DOCTOR MORSE, IS JUST ABOUT TO RETIRE TOO, AND I'VE NEVER MET HER YET.

WITH ALL THIS EXTRA TIME JUST SITTING HERE, THEY SHOULD GIVE US SOMETHING POSITIVE TO DO, INSTEAD OF INMATES
FIGHTING EACH OTHER, WITH LONG HOURS OF Boredom AFFECTING ALL OF US. I MOSTLY STAY IN MY UNIT, I GET
SICKLY AFTER DIALYSIS, AND DON'T WANT TO BE AROUND PEOPLE COUGHING OR SNEEZING OR STAFF WHO
MIGHT BRING IN THE CORONAVIRUS FROM THE SPRINGFIELD'S STREETS, IT'S GETTING WORST AT THERE TOO, WE
WATCH THE LOCAL NEWS TOO, FACE MASK REQUIRED. THANKS FOR READING MY LETTER, I'M WORRIED BUT IT HELPS
TO WRITE YOU TO LET YOU KNOW SOMETHINGS I GO THROUGH, GOD BLESS YOU.

Respectfully,

Waylon Youngbird

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